

**RULES
OF
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION**

**CHAPTER 40-13-3
HEALTH; TRANSPORTATION**

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40-13-4-.13 Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM).

(1) Owners of equine determined to be affected with or at-risk of Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) must comply with an action plan approved by the State Veterinarian.

(2) Mares and stallions from countries where CEM is known to exist (hereinafter “CEM country”) shall be allowed entry into Georgia only by special permit issued by the State Veterinarian. All equine granted a special permit will be quarantined upon entry into the state.

(3) Application

(a) Application for approval by the owner or agent shall be on a form provided by the State Veterinarian and shall contain:

1. Name of owner and any authorized agent and mailing address of each;
2. Country of origin;
3. Name and location of USDA quarantine station where equine were received from a CEM country;
4. Name, breed, age, sex, color, markings, and any additional identification of equine to be quarantined; and
5. Name and address of the Georgia licensed and USDA accredited veterinarian (hereinafter “approved veterinarian”) employed to perform testing.

(b) The applicant shall comply with all provisions as listed in the Code of Federal Regulations in 9 C.F.R. §§ 93.300-93.326 (Sub-Part C of Part 93, “Importation of Certain Animals, Birds, and Poultry, and Certain Animal, Bird and Poultry Products; Requirements for Means of Conveyance and Shipping Containers,”), hereinafter referred to as “CFR provisions”, which are incorporated herein by reference thereto.

(4) Premises

(a) All CEM permitted equine entering Georgia shall be quarantined to a facility approved by the State Veterinarian. Entrance to the facility shall be granted to personnel authorized by the State Veterinarian or USDA, [Area Veterinarian in Charge](#) at any time necessary to inspect the premises or to conduct required testing.

(b) The facility owner and operator shall each certify that he/she and his/her personnel have read [and agreed to carry out](#) the CFR provisions [and the rules of this Chapter](#).

~~(c)~~ Premises must be inspected and approved by State or Federal personnel prior to the arrival of the horses being placed in CEM quarantine.

~~(d)~~ ~~(e)~~ The facility shall include a separate enclosed building or separate area of building capable of being effectively cleaned, washed, disinfected, and of being secured by a lock or padlock.

(e) The facility [must](#) contain stalls where individual horses can be kept separate from each other by either an empty stall, an empty area where horses cannot touch each other or by a solid wall that is at least 8 feet (2.4m) high.

(f) A disinfectant approved by the State Veterinarian shall be applied to all fixed and movable surfaces and equipment [exposed to the quarantined animal](#) prior to use.

(g)-Facilities shall provide for the following:

1. disposal of manure, bedding, waste, and any related shipping materials in a manner that will prevent the dissemination of disease and approved by the State Veterinarian;

2. adequate drainage that shall not flow into areas where other horses are being maintained on the premise;

3. adequate food, water, and shelter to all equine; and

4. protective clothing for facility personnel at the entrance of the CEM quarantine facility. Such persons [while in the quarantine facility](#) shall wear [designated coveralls and wear boots that](#) must be disinfected with an approved disinfectant. ~~Footbaths must be used when entering and leaving the quarantine facility.~~

~~(h)~~ Equine in quarantine shall have no direct contact with other equine during the quarantine period except as specified in this [Chapter](#) or upon approval by the State Veterinarian.

(i) Facilities shall comply with additional requirements as determined to be necessary by the State Veterinarian to control infectious diseases.

(j) Facilities shall comply with all local, state, and federal requirements for animal welfare and humane care.

(k) All horses under CEM quarantine must remain in the facility until released by the State Veterinarian.

(5) Testing and treatment of stallions and mares [by approved veterinarian](#)

(a) All specimens tested for CEM must be conducted in a laboratory approved by USDA.

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(b) Appropriate bio-security measures will be implemented between animals in the quarantine facility.

(c) All gloves, sleeves, speculums and other disposable material after each culture or treatment will be placed in plastic garbage bags and stored in the quarantine facility until it can be appropriately disposed of, or until the quarantine is released.

(d) Stallions

1. One specimen each shall collected from the prepuce, the urethral sinus, and the fossa glandis, including the diverticulum of the fossa glandis of the stallion and be cultured for CEM.

2. After negative results have been obtained, the stallion must be test bred to two test mares that meet the requirements as listed in this paragraph.

3. Upon completion of the test breeding:

(i) The stallion must be treated for five consecutive days by thoroughly cleaning (scrubbing) the prepuce, penis, including the fossa glandis, and urethral sinus with a solution of not less than two percent (2%) chlorhexidine in a detergent base and then coating the cleansed areas with an ointment approved by the State Veterinarian. The treatment shall be monitored to the satisfaction of state or federal personnel.

(ii) Each mare to which the stallion has been test bred shall be cultured negative for CEM from sets of specimens that are collected from the mucosal surfaces of the clitoral fossa and clitoral sinuses on the 3rd, 6th, and 9th days after the breeding. Each mare must test negative for a complement fixation test for CEM on the 15th day after the breeding.

4. If any culture or test required in this Chapter is positive for CEM, the stallion must be treated as described in sub-paragraph (i) of the immediately preceding sub-paragraph and retested by being test bred to two mares no less than 21 days after the last day of treatment.

5. A stallion may be released from quarantine only when approved by the State Veterinarian and if all tests of specimens from the test mares and from the stallion are negative for CEM.

(e) Test Mares

1. Mares used to test stallions for CEM shall be permanently identified before the mares are used for such testing with the letter "T." The marking shall be permanently applied by state or federal personnel, or an approved veterinarian. The marking shall be applied by hot iron, freezemarking, or lip tattoo. If a hot iron or freezemarking is used, the marking shall not be less than two inches high and shall be applied to the left shoulder or left side of the neck. If a lip tattoo is used, the marking shall not be less than 1 inch high and 0.75 inch wide and shall be applied to the inside of the upper lip.

2. Each mare shall be tested with negative results by a complement fixation test for CEM, and specimens taken from each mare shall be cultured negative for CEM in order to qualify as a test mare. For culture, sets of specimens shall be collected by an approved veterinarian on the 1st, 4th, and 7th days of a 7-day period from the mucosal surfaces of the clitoral fossa and clitoral sinuses.

3. A test mare that has been used to test stallions for CEM may be released from quarantine only if approved by the State Veterinarian and:

Comment [Dr. Myers1]: Check CFR

Comment [k2R1]: This came word for word from the "CEM Quarantine Guidelines for States, July 2004" that was distributed by Staff. Closest CFR citation that I could find was 93.301(b)(3)(iii) "must be disposed of in a manner that will prevent dissemination of disease"

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Comment [Dr. Myers3]: Ck to be sure CF test is still test of choice

Comment [k4]: Confirmed that the CF test is still the required test.

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- (i) found negative for CEM on all cultures and tests required; or
- (ii) subjected to an ovariectomy by an approved veterinarian under the direct supervision of a state or federal veterinarian; or
- (iii) treated as described in sub-paragraphs 2 and 3 of the paragraph ~~(d)~~ (f) below; or
- (iv) moved in a sealed conveyance directly to a state or federally approved slaughter establishment and accompanied by a VS 1-27 permit; or
- (v) euthanized under the direct supervision of state or federal personnel.

(f) Mares

1. Sets of specimens shall be collected on the 1st, 4th, and 7th days by an approved veterinarian from the mucosal surfaces of the clitoral fossa and clitoral sinuses.

2. After the three sets of specimens have been collected, an approved veterinarian shall manually remove organic debris from the sinuses of each mare and then flush the sinuses with a cerumalytic agent approved by the State Veterinarian.

3. For five consecutive days after the sinuses have been cleaned, an approved veterinarian shall aseptically clean and wash (scrub) the external genitalia and vaginal vestibules, including the clitoral fossa, with a solution of not less than two percent (2%) chlorhexidine in a detergent base and then fill the clitoral fossa and sinuses, and coat the external genitalia and vaginal vestibule with an agent effective against CEM approved by the State Veterinarian.

4. If any culture required by this paragraph is positive for CEM, the mare shall be treated as described in sub-paragraphs 2 and 3 of this paragraph. No less than 21 days after the last treatment, the mare shall be tested again in accordance with sub-paragraph 1 of this paragraph. If all specimens are negative for CEM, the mare may qualify for quarantine release.

(6) At-Risk Equine: Equine disclosed by an epidemiological investigation to be at-risk of CEM will be quarantined. The quarantine will be released after the at risk equine meet the requirements outlined in 40-13-4-.13(5) "Testing and treatment of stallions and mares".

(7) Owner's Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of the equine owner to provide the necessary facilities, resources and labor to determine the CEM status of all eligible equine. If an equine owner fails to implement or comply with an approved action plan, the State Veterinarian may require the humane destruction of all affected and at-risk equine.

Authority O.C.G.A. § 4-4-64; 4-4-67; 4-4-70; 4-4-120; 4-4-121.